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The recent trends in the market for coir, however, indicate that the prices of coir goods are on the increase and that there is a good demand for coir.''

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—''சர்க்கார் எடுக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகள் ஒரு புறம் இருக்க ஏற்கனவே எடுத்திருக்கும் நடவடிக்கைகள்படி கட்டு மொத்தமாக எவ்வளவு தங்கியிருக்கின்றன என்பதை சர்க்கார் கணித்திருக்கிறதா? அப்படியானால் அதை சொல்ல முடியுமா?'' 12-10 p.m.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Sir, I have already said at the end of my reply that there has been an improvement in the coir market and that there is no slump now. I think the hon. Member would have noticed the Kozhikode Market Review in the *Hindu* of the 29th September 1953 where it was pointed out that there was a good demand for coir, especially for the Beypore varieties. In the local market over 1,200 candies were sold in the last week as against 1,000 candies sold during the previous week. There are no arrears and all the stocks were disposed of then and there.''

DR. K. B. MENON :—'' I think the Coir Factory at Beypore has been closed. Have the Government any proposals to reopen the factory?''

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Sir, I would like to have notice.''

MR. SPEAKER :—'' Question hour is now over.''

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Number of suicides and deaths in the jails in South Arcot district.

1 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state the number of suicides and deaths in the various jails in the South Arcot district from 1951 up to 30th June 1953?

A.—There were five cases of death in the Central Jail, Cuddalore, due to natural causes and one case of suicide in the Sub-Jail, Vriddhachalam, during the period.

Income from forests in South Arcot district.

2 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total income from the forests of the South Arcot district and the expenditure incurred to maintain them during the years 1951–52 and 1952–53; and

(*b*) the total number of illicit cuttings during the year 1952–53?

A.—(*a*) The particulars are furnished below :—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
	RS.	RS.
1951–52	56,859	71,385
1952–53	69,060	74,750

(*b*) There were 2,104 cases of illicit cuttings.

Details about attacks by and deaths due to cholera.

3 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons were affected by cholera, smallpox and plague in the State, districtwar, this year up till now;

(*b*) how many deaths were recorded under each head; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the State is free from plague; and the measures taken by the Government against a reappearance of plague?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

Nominations to Rural Welfare Committees.

4 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have nominated persons for the Rural Welfare Department Committee ;

(*b*) if so, the names of the members of the Committee;

(*c*) what are the functions of the Committee; and

(*d*) what are the rural reconstruction schemes which proved successful in the State from the introduction of the Rural Development Scheme in 1946?

A.—(*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the Rural Welfare Committee set up for each district. If, so the answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The members of each District Rural Welfare Committee are the following :—

(1) Collector of the district (*Chairman*);

(2) Revenue Divisional Officer (*Vice-Chairman*);

(3) Rural Welfare Officer (Rural Welfare Department) (*Secretary*);

(4) Centre Khadi Officer in respect of Intensive Khadi areas in districts where they exist;

(5) President of the District Board; and

(6) Five prominent constructive workers.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 48–49 infra.

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The names of the prominent constructive workers nominated to each of the Committees are given in the appendix [a].

(c) The prime function of the Committee is to devise ways and means to implement the Rural Welfare Scheme.

(d) The Rural Welfare Scheme of this Government which aims at an integrated development of the selected areas involving the co-ordination of the activities of the various nation-building departments is one and indivisible for purposes of assessment. It cannot be separated into parts and later classified as successful and unsuccessful.

Development of the Madayi-Payyanur firka area.

5 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the amount of money allotted for the development of the Madayi-Payyanur firka area under the following heads with details thereof :—

(1) Road Development;

(2) Medical Welfare;

(3) Health Scheme;

(4) Irrigation projects and sinking of wells;

(5) More educational facilities;

(6) Adult literacy;

(7) More intensive cultivation of the cultivated lands;

(8) Assignment of waste lands for cultivation; and

(9) Acquisition of private waste lands for assignment to the landless?

A.—The Rural Welfare Scheme is an integration of the activities of the various nation-building departments of the Government which are implemented with special priority in the Rural Welfare areas. Lump-sum allotments have been sanctioned under the Rural Welfare Scheme only for Village Communications and Rural Water-supply. Sanction has also been accorded for expenditure on minor and urgent items of work. The allotment made in respect of these three heads are given below for the Madayi area (which includes certain villages in the Payyanur and Taliparamba firkas). In respect of other heads mentioned in the question, the expenditure is met from the departmental budgets as and when they arise and no lump-sum allotments, are made under "Rural Welfare".

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 49–54 infra.

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Details of allotments sanctioned.

	RS.
Rural water-supply	25,000
Village communications	25,000
Discretionary grants	10,000 (per annum) (expenditure under this head will however have to be regulated with reference to the provision available in the Budget).

Extent of State-owned lands.

6 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer to unstarred question No. 202 given on 24th July 1953, details of the remaining area of the land in each district of the State apart from what is given in the appendix to the answer and the use to which such lands are put?

A.—The remaining area consists of the following:—

(1) Area under forests;

(2) Land put to non-agricultural uses;

(3) Permanent pasture and other grazing lands;

(4) Land under miscellaneous trees and crops;

(5) Current fallows; and

(6) Other fallows.

Number of employees in the Koothali Estate.

7 *Q.*—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of employees in the Koothali Estate in Kurumbranad taluk;

(*b*) the scale of pay of each employee; and

(*c*) the total amount sanctioned and spent for the office building, etc., and other miscellaneous expenditure?

A.—The answer is furnished below:—

Total number of employees in the Koothali Estate in Kurumbranad taluk. Category.	Number.	Scale of pay of each employee.	Total amount sanctioned and spent for the office building, etc., and other miscellaneous expenditure.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		RS.	
Special Deputy Tahsildar.	1	150—5—200	
Upper Division Clerk	1	80—3—95—5—110	

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Total number of employees in the Koothali Estate in Kurumbranad taluk. Category. (1)	Number. (2)	Scale of pay of each employee. (3)	Total amount sanctioned and spent for the office building, etc., and other miscellaneous expenditure. (4)
		RS.	
Lower Division Clerk.	5	45—3—60—2—90	
Attender ..	1	18—½—25	
Bill Collectors.	2	15	
Peons	5	18—½—25	
Forest Watchers.	3	20—½—30	

"Local Development works" under the Five-Year Plan.

8 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state what are the schemes approved by the Planning Commission in this State under the local works programme and the estimated cost of each?

A.—The Government of India made a grant of Rs. 40 lakhs to this State for expenditure on 'Local Development Works' for 1953–54 under the Five-Year Plan. The schemes for this grant are being sanctioned by this Government. The Government of India have also reserved Rs. 50 lakhs for direct grant to voluntary associations with good record of work or those established for carrying out special activities in rural areas, in consultation with the State Governments. Applications from voluntary association for financial assistance from the Central Reserve grant are being forwarded to the Government of India and the schemes are sanctioned by the Planning Commission.

Out of Rs. 40 lakhs grant allotted by the Government of India for the Madras State, Andhra State and a portion of the Mysore State, the share of the Madras State works out to Rs. 24,69,100 or 24·69 lakhs. An expenditure of Rs. 15,52,695 has so far been sanctioned by this Government under the Local Development Works Programme for 1953–54, the total Government of India grant being Rs. 7,75,287.

So far, 18 applications for financial assistance from voluntary organizations in this State have been forwarded to the Government of India for sanction, out of the 50 lakhs grant reserved by them. Out of these, they have sanctioned a grant not exceeding a sum of Rs. 10,000 to Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Perianaickenpalayam, Coimbatore district.

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Another application from the Rector, Loyola College, Madras, for the construction of a building for scientific studies in St. Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli, has been rejected by the Planning Commission. No orders have so far been received from the Planning Commission in respect of the other 16 applications forwarded to them.

Number of wells sunk under the Well-subsidy Scheme in South Arcot district.

9 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of wells sunk under the Well-subsidy Scheme during 1949 to 1952 and the total number of incomplete wells in South Arcot district; and

(*b*) the total amount treated as subsidy out of the total grant given?

A.—The answer[a] is placed on the table of the House.

Supply of oil engines and motor pumpsets in the Gingee taluk, South Arcot district.

10 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the total number of oil engines and motor pumpsets supplied in the Gingee taluk, South Arcot district under the hire purchase system for the period from 1947 to 1952 and the total number of applications received for the same by the Agricultural Department?

A.—As regards the supply of oil engines, 9 applications were received in 1950 out of which 6 were complied with. Thirty-seven applications were received during 1951 out of which 3 were complied with. There were no applications during the other years.

There were no applications for the supply of electric motor pumpsets during the period.

Appointment of Special Officers for District Boards.

11 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Collectors have been appointed as Special Officers in the place of District Board Presidents;

(*b*) whether any non-official members other than District Collectors have been posted as Special Officers;

(*c*) how many Personal Assistants to the Special Officers have been posted;

(*d*) what are the qualifications of the Personal Assistants;

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 55 infra.

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(*e*) how many Harijan members have been posted as Personal Assistants; and

(*f*) whether there are any special allowances extended to them other than their usual salaries and allowances, and if so, how much?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Personal Assistants have been appointed to the Special Officers of all the District Boards except the Special Officer of the Nilgiris District Board. The number of Personal Assistants so appointed is 12.

(*d*) No qualifications have been prescribed for Personal Assistants to the Special Officers except that they should be appointed from amongst Gazetted Officers of the Revenue Department, as far as possible.

(*e*) One.

(*f*) Yes; a special pay of Rs. 100 per mensem has been sanctioned to each Personal Assistant in addition to his pay.

Hospitals in Taluk Headquarters.

12 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the names of the Taluk Headquarters where there are no hospitals at all, Government or aided, in the Residuary Madras State during 1952–53?

A.—There was no Taluk Headquarters station without a hospital maintained by either Government or Local Bodies during 1952–53 in the Residuary Madras State.

Admissions to the Madras General Hospital.

13 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the number of people not admitted in the Madras General Hospital on the ground of being (*a*) too early and (*b*) incurable, for the years 1951 and 1952?

A.—As no records are maintained about the number of patients not admitted in the Madras General Hospital, the information is not available.

Assignment of lands in South Kanara district.

14 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of darkhast petitions received by the Hosdrug Deputy Tahsildar in South Kanara district from 1949–53;

(*b*) in how many cases assignments have been made so far; and

(*c*) in how many cases the petitions have been rejected?

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A.—(*a*) Two thousand five hundred and sixty-six.

(*b*) Seventy-nine.

(*c*) One thousand six hundred and twenty-nine.

Celebration of the ' Harijan Day '.

15. *Q*.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Harijan Day celebration was observed in all the districts so far during the year 1953 in accordance with the programme laid down by the Government; and

(*b*) the amount of expenses involved per each district towards the cost of celebrating the ' Harijan Day ' monthly?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No expenditure is incurred by the Government on the celebration of the ' Harijan Day '. Instructions have been issued to all Collectors to constitute committees of local leaders interested in Harijan Welfare work to organize the celebration of the ' Harijan Day ' and to collect necessary funds for the same. The information regarding the expenditure incurred by such non-official committees or other organizations is not available.

III.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to announce to the House that under rule 15 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, I have nominated the following four members to be the Panel of Chairmen for the fifth session :—

(1) Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar.

(2) Sri A. Ramasami Tevar.

(3) Sri V. S. Sivaprakasam.

(4) Sri V. Balakrishnan."

IV.—GOVERNMENT MOTION *RE* PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1953-54—ELECTION OF FOURTEEN MEMBERS TO—

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *That, with reference to rule* 138 *of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker, to elect fourteen Members to be Members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the financial year* 1953–54.' "

MR. SPEAKER :—" Motion moved—

' That, with reference to rule 138 of the Madras Legislative Assembly Rules, this Assembly do proceed on a date to be fixed by the Hon. the Speaker, to elect fourteen Members to be Members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the financial year 1953–54.' "